

**From:** Pete Dakan  
**To:** Ms. Renata B. Heese  
**Date:** 1/21/02 7:02pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement (Support)

Dear Ms. Heese:

Quite frankly, I don't even know who you are or how you fit into the Microsoft suit. The words below drafted by the Citizen group express well enough why the suit should be settled immediately and I can only assume you have some influence on the outcome.

I would like you to consider the fact that people need to be responsible for their own actions--everyone has a choice. It is not your job nor that of any politician to make decisions for individuals. Please allow people to run their own lives without government interference. At the end of the day just ask yourself how you contributed to the real personal accountability and responsibility of Americans. If you didn't, you should be ashamed. This is a small issue in the scheme of things but the trend is definitely in the wrong direction for a strong future for America.

I support the recent settlement of the long-running antitrust lawsuit between the U.S. Department of Justice, state attorneys general and Microsoft Corporation. Though I applaud the nine state attorneys general that decided to follow the federal government's lead and settle the case, I am thoroughly disappointed that remaining state attorneys general and the District of Columbia have decided to further pursue this baseless case.

The settlement is fair to all. It will allow Microsoft's competitors to use Microsoft's Windows operating system to incorporate their software programs and will give consumers more services and products to choose from.

As you are well aware, members of Citizens for a Sound Economy have been unrelenting in our opposition to the federal government's antitrust case against Microsoft. For nearly 3 years, activists like myself have called, emailed, visited, and sent letters to the U.S. Department of Justice and to state attorneys' general offices explaining that Microsoft's actions did not harm consumers, but provided them with great benefits by lowering the cost and increasing the availability of software products. We have stressed that Microsoft is a pioneer in the high-technology market and that their products increased our familiarity with the Internet.

Once again, I thank you for your decision to settle this unfortunate lawsuit against a successful and innovative company.

Respectfully,

Pete Dakan  
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CC:  
Citizens for a Sound Economy